

UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS-RIO GRANDE VALLEY
School of Social Work
Practicum Education Office

Practicum Instructor's Selection Criteria

The selection criteria for practicum instructors are addressed in Section 2.1.4 of the 2008 Educational Policy and Accreditation Standards (EPAS) of the Council of Social Work Education (CSWE). In keeping with these standards, the UTRGV School of Social Work requires that the Practicum Instructors for a BSW intern will meet the following criteria:

- ✓ Holds a BSW degree from a CSWE-accredited program with a minimum of 5 years post-degree experience, or a MSW/MSSW from a CSWE-accredited program with a minimum of 2 years post-graduate experience.
- ✓ Embraces views and philosophies compatible with the UTRGV School of Social Work's mission, goals, and objectives.
- ✓ Have a generalist training and experience in direct practice with individuals, families, small groups, organizations, and/or communities.

In the event that an agency that wants to participate in our Practicum Education Program does not have a staff member who meets the criteria for a practicum instructor, the Practicum Education Office will consider assuming responsibility for reinforcing a social work perspective, as permitted by Section 2.1.4 of the EPAS. Specifically, faculty members or other qualified instructors may assume practicum instructor responsibilities in such practicum placements, while a task supervisor is assigned for the daily supervision. This may be done for the purpose of developing placements in key areas of social work practice and to support the educational interests of social work students. However, the agency must commit to hiring social workers who can assume practicum instructor responsibilities within a reasonable time frame agreed upon by the Practicum Education Office and the agency. This practice will promote the profession of social work by assisting in the agency's development in acquiring a social work perspective.